

## EMERGENCY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

*(Year 345 Service Priorities: #142 for Part A and #5-8 for*

**Emergency Financial Assistance** is a support service. Under the local Ryan White Part A and MAI Programs, Emergency Financial Assistance provides limited one-time or short-term provision of approved formulary HIV/AIDS-related medications only, either directly or through a voucher program, while a client's eligibility for medication assistance is pending with a third-party payer. Subrecipients must be a Ryan White Part A or MAI Program-funded subrecipient also receiving AIDS Pharmaceutical Assistance (Local Pharmaceutical Assistance Program) funding and must have a current Public Health Service 340B certification from the federal Office of Pharmacy Affairs. It is expected that all other sources of funding in the community for emergency assistance will be effectively used and that any allocation of Ryan White Part A or MAI Program funds for these purposes will be as the payer of last resort, and for limited amounts, use and periods of time.

Currently, these funds are limited to the provision of short-term access to antiretroviral medications (ARV) for clients participating in the Test and Treat / Rapid Access (TTRA) protocol. In such instances, these services would only be used when the Florida Department of Health's financial resources for ARV medications under the local TTRA protocol have been depleted and the client is not yet enrolled in ADAP. Only clients whose gross household income is at or below 400% of the Federal Poverty Level and have a pending application with a third-party payer (e.g., ADAP or private insurance) are eligible for this assistance. Emergency Financial Assistance must occur as a direct payment to an agency or through a voucher program. Direct cash payments or reimbursements to a program client are not permitted.

Medications in the TTRA protocol, as may be amended based on guidance from the Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County, include:

- Biktarvy®
- Descovy® + Prezcobix®
- Dovato®
- Symtuza®
- Tivicay® + Descovy®

Medications in the TTRA protocol for women of childbearing potential (or for women presenting with pregnancy potential on inadequate contraception), as may be amended based on guidance from the Florida Department of Health in Miami-Dade County, include:

- Tivicay® + Truvada®
- Tivicay® + Descovy®
- Prezista® + Norvir®

## IMPORTANT NOTES:

- 1) Tivicay® (dolutegravir) replaced Isentress® as a regimen appropriate and recommended for women at all stages of pregnancy – conception to birth. Tivicay® may be used with either Truvada® or Descovy®. The Panel on Treatment of Pregnant Women with HIV Infection and Prevention of Perinatal Transmission (the Panel) recommends dolutegravir (DTG) as a Preferred antiretroviral (ARV) drug throughout pregnancy and now also recommends DTG as a Preferred ARV for women who are trying to conceive. (2/10/2021)
- 2) Dovato® (dolutegravir/lamivudine) has clinical data on use in the Test and Treat scenario (STAT clinical trial). Dovato® samples or vouchers can be obtained from ViiV Healthcare pharmaceutical representatives for use in subrecipient clinic(s). As such, the Florida Department of Health cannot be invoiced for this medication.
- 3) Symtuza®; subrecipients / service providers may prescribe this medication, but they must use the voucher provided by Janssen Pharmaceuticals to cover the cost of this medication. As such, the Florida Department of Health cannot be invoiced for this medication.
- 4) Should the need arise (i.e., when Florida Department of Health's TTRA medication funds are depleted) to implement this service category, the funds available under this service category may increase through the Reallocations/Sweeps process. Furthermore, if this service category is implemented, the rules under AIDS Pharmaceutical Assistance (Local AIDS Pharmaceutical Assistance Program) apply, except for the allowable medications which are limited to the most current, locally-approved medications for the TTRA protocol.